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MICHIGAN LABOR MARKET REVIEW

JOB SERVICE
Michigan Employment Security Commission

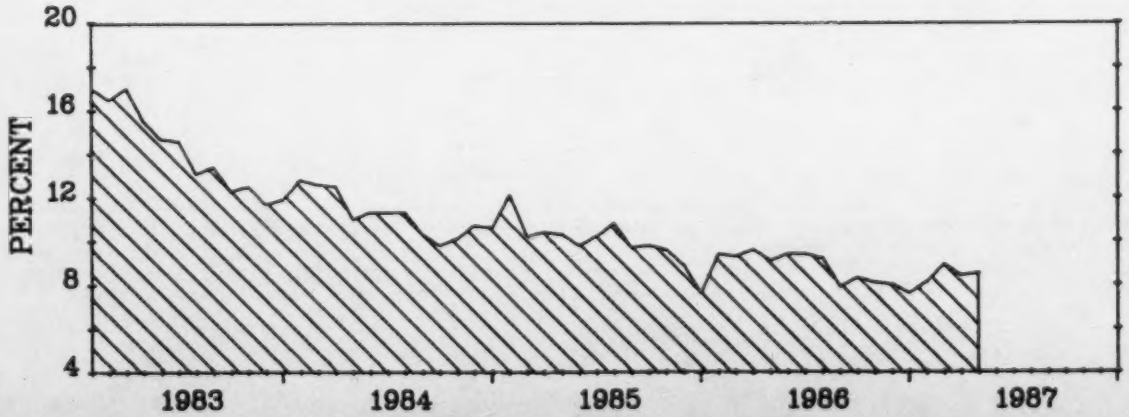
STATEWIDE JOBLESS RATE EXPERIENCES MARGINAL INCREASE

Michigan's unemployment rate increased slightly by one tenth of a percentage point during the month as the jobless rate inched upward from 8.4 percent in March to 8.5 percent in April. The rate increase represents 3,000 additional individuals out of work, as total state residents seeking employment climbed to 379,000. The marginal increase in joblessness was primarily a result of scattered layoffs across the state. Total employment in April registered a decline as the number of employed state residents fell by 16,000 to reach 4,072,000. Additionally, the civilian labor force dropped to 4,451,000, a loss of 13,000. Compared with a year ago, employment in Michigan has jumped by 134,000, while the size of the labor force has expanded by 119,000. In April 1986, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 394,000, representing an unemployment rate of 9.1 percent.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUE TO EXPAND

Wage and salary employment in Michigan increased for the third consecutive month as total industry jobs climbed to 3,687,000 in April. Employment opportunities advanced by approximately 45,000 as gains were centered in both the goods producing and service producing sectors of the economy. Total employment in the goods producing industries, rose by 19,000 primarily as a result of traditional seasonal gains in the construction industry. Service producing employment increased by 26,000 to 2,572,000 in April, as retail trade and services both showed significant growth over the month. Public sector positions grew by 1,000 as state level gains more than offset local level losses. Since April 1986, industry employment in Michigan has increased by 65,000 positions or 1.8 percent. Approximately 75,000 service producing jobs have been added throughout the year, while goods producing employment has dropped by 10,000.

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (1983–1987)



Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Estimates

State of Michigan

ITEM	APR 1987	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	APR 1986
PLACE OF RESIDENCE				
Civilian Labor Force	4451	4464	4431	4332
Employment	4072	4088	4038	3938
Unemployment	379	376	393	394
Rate	8.5	8.4	8.9	9.1
PLACE OF WORK				
Wage and Salary Employment	3687	3642	3640	3622
Goods Producing Industries	1115	1096	1098	1125
Construction and Mining	133	117	114	120
Mining	11	10	10	10
Construction	122	107	104	109
Special trade Contractors	81	71	70	72
Other Construction	42	36	34	38
Manufacturing	982	979	985	1005
Durable Goods	761	759	764	791
Lumber and Wood Products	14	14	13	13
Furniture and Fixtures	27	27	27	27
Stone, Clay and Glass Products	17	16	16	17
Metals	169	168	169	176
Primary Metals	49	49	49	51
Fabricated Metals	120	120	120	125
Nonelectrical Machinery	126	125	126	136
Electrical Machinery	38	38	39	38
Transportation Equipment	349	347	351	362
Motor Vehicles and Equipment	325	324	329	341
Other Transportation Equipment	23	23	23	21
Other Durable Goods	22	22	22	22
Nondurable Goods	221	220	221	214
Food and Kindred Products	44	44	44	43
Textiles and Apparel	24	25	25	23
Paper and Allied Products	22	21	22	21
Printing and Publishing	38	38	38	38
Chemicals and Petroleum	43	43	43	43
Other Nondurable Goods	49	49	49	46
Rubber and Plastic Prod.	47	46	46	44
Leather Products	2	2	2	3
Service Producing Industries	2572	2546	2542	2497
Trans., Comm. and Utilities	149	148	148	147
Transportation and Utilities	114	114	113	111
Communications	35	35	35	35
Wholesale Trade	177	177	178	174
Durable Goods	115	114	115	113
Nondurable Goods	62	62	63	61
Retail Trade	649	636	632	620
General Merchandise Stores	91	92	92	88
Food Stores	89	89	89	87
Automotive Dealers and Services	75	74	74	72
Eating and Drinking Places	228	219	215	214
Other Retail Trade	166	163	162	159
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	177	175	174	167
Finance	90	90	89	86
Insurance and Real Estate	87	86	85	81
Services	802	794	793	780
Business Services	173	171	171	163
Health Services	266	266	266	262
Other Services	363	357	356	355
Government	617	616	616	609
Federal	60	60	60	60
State	160	157	159	154
Local	397	399	397	395
Labor Disputes	0	0	0	0

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE data are based on the monthly Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - 1986 Benchmark.
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT is based on a monthly sample of employing establishments as part of the cooperative federal-state Current Employment Statistics program - March 1986 Benchmark.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

The number of individuals collecting regular unemployment benefits decreased for the second consecutive month in April. The regular benefits claims load averaged 132,420 per week during the month, approximately 20,448 less than the March total.

The 13 percent decrease in the monthly average was primarily due to continued employment gains in the retail trade and service industries. In April 1986, the number of claimants drawing benefits under the regular benefit program averaged 113,364, or approximately 17 percent lower than the present total.

WEEKLY CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Week Ending	Michigan			Detroit		
	Total	Initial	Continued	Total	Initial	Continued
April 04, 1987	155,900	16,400	139,500	70,300	7,400	62,900
April 11, 1987	155,500	19,000	136,500	72,300	8,900	63,400
April 18, 1987	144,500	12,900	131,600	67,400	6,200	61,200
April 25, 1987	135,000	11,400	123,600	64,200	5,000	59,200

COST OF LIVING CONTINUES TO RISE IN DETROIT

Consumer prices in the Detroit metropolitan area increased from 327.6 in February to 330.5 in April. The increase in Detroit area prices was primarily due to higher costs for men and women's apparel. Prices in the area climbed by 3.7 percent since April 1986, when the consumer price index stood at 318.8.

At the national level, the cost of living advanced by five tenths of a percent to reach 337.7 during the month. Between April 1986 and April 1987, national consumer prices increased by 3.8 percent. One year ago, the national index registered 325.3. Note: Beginning in January 1987, the Detroit index which was previously published monthly, is now issued only for even numbered months.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek of Michigan workers in manufacturing industries decreased to 42.1 hours in April. Shorter hours worked by individuals in primary metal products and motor vehicles and equipment caused the average workweek to decline.

During the month average hourly earnings inched upward by four cents to $12.99, while average weekly earnings decreased by $7.38 to total $546.88. In April 1986, earnings averaged $12.83 an hour or $543.99 per week for a 42.4 hour workweek.

MICHIGAN'S HOURS AND EARNINGS

Industry	Average Hourly Earnings a/			Average Weekly Hours a/			Average Weekly Earnings a/ 1		
	Apr 1987	Mar 1987	Apr 1986	Apr 1987	Mar 1987	Apr 1986	Apr 1987	Mar 1987	Apr 1986
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	$12.99	$12.95	$12.83	42.1	42.8	42.4	$546.88	$554.26	$543.99
DURABLE GOODS	13.46	13.46	13.37	42.5	43.0	42.6	572.05	578.78	569.56
Primary Metal Products	12.86	12.64	11.89	42.5	43.3	42.5	546.55	547.31	505.32
Fabricated Metal Products	12.75	12.79	12.58	41.7	42.1	42.2	531.67	538.46	530.88
Nonelectrical Machinery	13.22	13.15	12.88	43.0	43.7	43.1	568.46	574.65	555.13
Electrical Machinery	11.25	11.12	11.06	41.8	41.5	42.6	470.25	461.48	471.16
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	15.16	15.23	15.33	43.4	44.0	43.0	657.94	670.12	659.19
NONDURABLE GOODS	11.20	11.06	10.66	40.4	41.9	41.6	452.48	463.41	443.46
Contract Construction	15.48	15.43	15.79	37.3	37.0	38.9	577.40	570.91	614.23
Department Stores	6.35	6.54	6.67	25.9	27.1	26.9	164.46	177.23	179.42

a/ Average weekly and hourly earnings are computed from aggregates of individual establishment reports utilizing the total amount paid to production workers and total production hours. Average weekly and hourly earnings differ from weekly and hourly rates in that they are affected by overtime wage rates, part-time earnings, the length of the workweek, etc.

Note: *Current month data are preliminary.*

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES
APRIL 1987 (Preliminary)

Area	Civilian Labor Force	Total Employment	Total Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
United States	118,347,000	111,041,000	7,306,000	6.2
Michigan	4,450,000	4,072,000	379,000	8.5
Major Labor Markets				
Ann Arbor MSA	155,100	147,500	7,600	4.9
Battle Creek MSA	61,400	56,700	4,700	7.7
Benton Harbor MSA	75,700	69,400	6,300	8.3
Detroit MSA	2,180,000	2,001,000	178,000	8.2
Flint MSA	197,800	178,300	19,500	9.9
Grand Rapids MSA	332,000	310,100	21,900	6.6
Jackson MSA	61,800	56,500	5,300	8.5
Kalamazoo MSA	112,600	107,400	5,100	4.6
Lansing MSA	234,800	219,600	15,200	6.5
Muskegon MSA	67,300	59,400	7,900	11.7
Saginaw-Bay-Midland MSA	183,700	164,900	18,800	10.2
Upper Peninsula LMA	128,200	110,600	17,600	13.7
Major Counties (15,000+)				
Allegan	51,450	48,100	3,325	6.5
Barry	20,700	18,975	1,750	8.4
Bay	53,950	47,050	6,900	12.8
Branch	17,500	16,025	1,475	8.5
Cass	23,100	21,525	1,575	6.8
Clinton	29,400	27,375	2,025	6.9
Delta	15,600	13,625	1,975	12.6
Eaton	50,575	47,700	2,850	5.6
Grand Traverse	32,200	29,275	2,925	9.1
Gratiot	17,400	14,850	2,575	14.7
Hillsdale	19,075	17,475	1,575	8.3
Huron	15,475	13,775	1,725	11.1
Ingham	154,800	144,475	10,325	6.7
Ionia	18,325	16,200	2,125	11.6
Isabella	27,150	25,300	1,850	6.8
Kent	245,400	228,525	16,875	6.9
Lapeer	32,500	29,125	3,375	10.4
Lenawee	41,525	37,700	3,800	9.2
Livingston	50,825	47,625	3,200	6.3
Macomb	375,475	344,450	31,025	8.3
Marquette	28,100	25,300	2,800	10.0
Midland	35,675	32,550	3,125	8.8
Monroe	63,050	57,575	5,450	8.7
Montcalm	21,375	18,875	2,500	11.7
Newaygo	16,475	14,675	1,800	10.9
Oakland	569,550	532,750	36,800	6.5
Ottawa	86,575	81,575	5,025	5.8
Saginaw	94,100	85,325	8,775	9.3
St. Clair	66,150	58,775	7,375	11.1
St. Joseph	26,025	23,875	2,150	8.3
Sanilac	19,100	16,950	2,125	11.2
Shiawassee	31,800	28,625	3,175	10.0
Tuscola	22,275	19,525	2,725	12.3
Van Buren	29,875	26,750	3,125	10.5
Wayne	1,022,125	930,875	91,250	8.9

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